

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

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ELEMENTS DE PATHOLOGIE CHIRURGICALE GENERALE par S. BAUDRY,  
Professor a la Faculté de Médecine de Lille. Paris, Adrien Dela-  
haye and Emile Lecrosnier, 1886-8. 8 vo., p. 716.

### ELEMENTS OF GENERAL SURGICAL PATHOLOGY.

In his preface the author describes his intention as being not to write a complete treatise, but to diffuse a knowledge of the labors of predecessors by summarizing them as clearly as possible.

The result is, upon the whole, very good. We know of no English work which gives so complete and clear an account of the general surgical pathology of the day. The evidences of extensive reading and of acquaintance with the latest and best researches into the different parts of the subject make the work very interesting as well as useful.

To analyze one chapter of the book, let us take the third. It is on "The reciprocal influence of Diseases and Traumatisms." Its first section deals with diathetic diseases, *e. g.*, gout, rheumatism, cancer. The second section treats of "constitutional dystrophies," including diabetes, scurvy, leucocythemia, and hæmophilia. The third considers infectious diseases, acute and chronic, such as typhoid fever, scrofula, syphilis and "paludism." To give an idea of the style and method of the book a portion of this may be quoted.

"PALUDISM.—The word *paludism* (Verneuil) signifies a poisoning characterized by intermittent or remittent fever and by a special cachectic state of which the chief attributes are considerable and quickly appearing anæmia, a diminution in number and an alteration of the globules of the blood, splenic hypertrophy, visceral alterations (of the liver, kidneys, etc.) Paludism constitutes a general morbid state whose influence upon traumatic lesions has now been clearly demonstrated by most numerous and convincing facts."

"Delpech, Lafont-Gouzy, and, afterwards, Bouisson, published the first accounts of complications (intermittent hæmorrhages, neuralgias, fevers, etc.,) caused by malarial infection. In 1866 and 1867, Cocud,

Professor Mazzini, of Rome, and Duboué, of Pau, drew the attention of surgeons to these complications, and, in the following year, Verneuil inspired the first comprehensive work on the subject, that of one of his pupils, M. Dériaud. The question having been once opened, other papers appeared quickly; Moriez, Siègry, Taiebould Morsly, Valerani, etc., added their quota of cases. More recently we may cite the memoirs of Verneuil and L. H. Petit, the communication of M. Dehenne to the first French Congress of Surgery, the articles of Dr. Coe, and of Dr. Jules Roquette (D'Espalion) and the excellent contribution of M. Corré in his clinical treatise on the maladies of warm countries."

(Full references to all the above are given in 14 foot notes.)

"The nature and the intensity of the accident or complications which paludism causes in conjunction with traumatism varies with the period and the degree of the malarial intoxication in which the wounded person is, and also depends on whether he is still exposed to the infection or has been more or less long removed from it. The influence of race has also to be considered."

"In the first period, the happy results which have been got from great operations performed during expeditions in Algeria prove that the repair of accidental or operative wounds is not sensibly impeded by malarious influences: nevertheless these tend to produce certain local accidents or phenomena, among which the most constant are congestions, hæmorrhages, spasms or neuralgic pains, with a periodic character most clearly marked, and which are readily cured by sulphate of quinine (Verneuil, Cocud, etc.)." \* \* \*

"When the cachectic period of malarious intoxication has arrived, that is to say, when lesions of the viscera (spleen, liver, kidneys, heart, etc.) are present, then wounds are threatened with most serious complications. In spite of Listerian dressings and of the administration of quinine, union by the first intention fails, trivial wounds suppurate, heal with difficulty, or ulcerate and become phagedænic. Sometimes, even, diffuse phlegmon, cellulitis, lymphangitis, erysipelas, pyæmia, gangrene, etc., quickly carry off the patient. Finally, according to Taiebould Morsly, paludism retards the consolidation of fractures as well as the repair of wounds. Roux is of a different opinion. He thinks there has been a general exaggeration of the influence of malarious infection on traumatism. 'I have never observed,' says he 'that the cure of fractures takes longer in India than in France. Among the Bengalis, almost all of whom are affected with a variable degree of "paludian cachexia," I have had magnificent operative results without any acci-

dent: cure was even much more rapid than in Europe.' Naval surgeons who have practiced in various malarial countries make the same statements."

The full, fair and interesting character of the above extract is that of the whole book.

C. B. KEETLEY.

THE BEST SURGICAL DRESSING.—HOW TO PREPARE IT AND HOW TO USE IT; WITH A CONSIDERATION OF BEACH'S PRINCIPLE OF BULLET-WOUND TREATMENT. By OTIS K. NEWELL, M.D., Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy at Harvard Medical School; Surgeon to Out-Patients at the Massachusetts General Hospital, etc.; Boston, Cupples & Hurd, 1888, 12 mo. pp. 179; Price, \$1.00.

The greater portion of this book and practically all of that portion relating to "the best surgical dressing" consists of a translation of Mikulicz's paper on the use of iodoform in surgery in the *Wiener Klinik* of January 1882. The paper is of great interest, and we are glad to have it made accessible to students of surgery who are so unfortunate as to be unable to read it in the original.

The remainder of the book is occupied by a brief consideration of the practice of primary antiseptic healing of bullet wounds without attempting the removal of the missile, the establishment of which he claims for Dr. H. A. Beach, of Boston. In support of this claim he quotes six cases from the records of the Massachusetts General Hospital, all of which were treated according to this principle in 1881 and 1882. He reports two others treated in 1876 and 1879, but as the bullet was left undisturbed in these cases only because it was impracticable to remove it, they can hardly be properly considered in support of his claim for Dr. Beach, while Reyher's work in the same line during the Turko-Russian war was published in 1878. The author can hardly be acknowledged to have indicated the propriety of the expression, "Beach's principle" in regard to this procedure.

The book is beautifully gotten up, and is a very creditable production, although it would perhaps have been less assuming had the author coupled Professor Mikulicz's name with his own upon the title-page.

JAMES E. PILCHER.

ARBEITEN AUS DER CHIRURGISCHEN KLINIK DER K. UNIV. BERLIN.  
E. VON BERGMANN. Theil II und III. 1887, New York, G. E. Steohert.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE SURGICAL CLINIC OF THE ROYAL UNIVERSITY.